The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A guidance route search device, the device comprising:

a route point specifying unit adapted to specify multiple route points to which a user is to be guided before reaching a destination point; and

a selecting unit adapted to select a guidance schedule which defines possible sequences of visiting orders for all the multiple route points by a preset time of arrival at the destination point and a staying time period at each of the route points, the staying time period at each of the route points being established to have a possible maximal value within the maximum staying time predetermined for that route point;

a determination unit adapted to determine whether there is spare time other than the staying time at the route points and the traveling time among the route points; and

an adjustment unit adapted to add a part or all of the spare time to the staying time at one or more specific route point, if it is determined that there is the spare time, thereby increasing the staying time at the specific route point.

2. (Currently Amended) A guidance route search device, the device comprising:

a route point specifying unit adapted to specify multiple route points to which a user is to be guided before reaching a destination point;

a temporary determination unit adapted to determine staying time periods at each of the multiple route points based on staying possible time prespecified for each route point;

a determination unit adapted to make determination about propriety of a guidance schedule in which the multiple route points are passed through, based on

each of the determined staying time periods at the multiple route points and traveling time among the route points; and

an adjustment unit adapted to adjust the staying time at least at one route point in response to the result of determination by the determination unit,

wherein the determination unit operates to determine whether there is spare time other than the staying time at the route points and the traveling time among the route points, and

wherein if it is determined by the determination unit that there is spare time, the adjustment unit operates to add a part or all of the spare time to the staying time at one or more specific route point, thereby increasing the staying time at the specific route point.

3. (Previously Presented) The guidance route search device according to claim 2, wherein

the determination unit operates to determine whether the guidance schedule in which the multiple route points are passed through is possible or not; and

if it is determined by the determination unit that the guidance schedule in which the multiple route points are passed through is not possible, the adjustment unit operates to reduce the staying time at least at one route point.

4. (Original) The guidance route search device according to claim 3, wherein

the prespecified staying time is specified within the range of a trip time period from departure time of a trip for dropping into the multiple route points to time of arrival at a destination point.

5. (Previously Presented) The guidance route search device according to claim 2, wherein

the prespecified staying time is specified within a range of a trip time period from departure time of a trip for dropping into the multiple route points to arrival time.

6. (Previously Presented) The guidance route search device according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the device further comprising:

a display unit adapted to display the guidance schedule for the multiple route points adjusted by the adjustment unit;

an input unit adapted to operate in order to change the guidance schedule displayed on the display unit; and

a change unit adapted to change the guidance schedule in response to a change operation with the input unit and causing the display unit to display the changed guidance schedule.

7. (Original) The guidance route search device according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein

time to start staying and/or the staying time prespecified for each route point is specified based on at least one among the route point, type of the route point, user, utilization group, time of year for utilization and user age.

8. (Currently Amended) A guidance route search method to be performed by a hardware processor, the method comprising the steps of:

inputting via an interface an information signal specifying multiple route points to which a user is to be guided before reaching a destination point;

calculating by a calculation unit possible sequences of visiting orders for all the multiple route points, by a preset time of arrival at the destination point and a staying time period at each of the route points, thereby selecting a guidance schedule which defines the possible sequences of visiting orders and the staying time period, the staying time period at each of the route points being established by a processor

component so as to have a possible maximal value within the maximum staying time predetermined for that route point;

determining whether there is spare time other than the staying time at the route points and the traveling time among the route points; and

adding a part or all of the spare time to the staying time at one or more specific route point, if it is determined that there is the spare time, thereby increasing the staying time at the specific route point.

9. (Currently Amended) A guidance route search method to be performed by a hardware processor, the method comprising the steps of:

inputting via an interface an information signal specifying multiple route points to which a user is to be guided before reaching a destination point;

determining ~~by a first processor component~~ staying time periods at each of the multiple route points based on staying possible time prespecified for each route point;

making ~~by a second processor component~~ determination about propriety of a guidance schedule in which the multiple route points are passed through, based on each of the determined staying time periods at the multiple route points and traveling time among the route points; and

adjusting ~~by a third processor component~~ the staying time at least at one route point in response to the result of determination by the step of performing determination;

determining ~~by the fourth processor component~~ whether there is spare time other than the staying time at the route points and the traveling time among the route points;

adding ~~by the fifth processor component~~ a part or all of the spare time to the staying time at one or more specific route point, if it is determined that there is the spare time, thereby increasing the staying time at the specific route point.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium which records a program concerning a guidance route search method, the program causing a computer to execute the steps of:

inputting via an interface an information signal specifying multiple route points to which a user is to be guided before reaching a destination point; and

selecting in a calculating part a guidance schedule which defines possible sequences of visiting orders for all the multiple route points by a preset time of arrival at the destination point and a staying time period at each of the route points, the staying time period at each of the route points being established in a processing part to have a possible maximal value within the maximum staying time predetermined for that route point;

determining whether there is spare time other than the staying time at the route points and the traveling time among the route points; and

adding a part or all of the spare time to the staying time at one or more specific route point, if it is determined that there is the spare time, thereby increasing the staying time at the specific route point.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium which records a program concerning a guidance route search method, the program causing a computer to execute the steps of:

inputting via an interface an information signal specifying multiple route points to which a user is to be guided before reaching a destination point;

determining staying time periods at each of the multiple route points based on staying possible time prespecified for each route point;

making determination about propriety of a guidance schedule in which the multiple route points are passed through, based on each of the determined staying time periods at the multiple route points and traveling time among the route points;

adjusting the staying time at least at one route point in response to the result of determination by the step of performing determination;

determining whether there is spare time other than the staying time at the route points and the traveling time among the route points; and

adding a part or all of the spare time to the staying time at one or more specific route point, if it is determined that there is the spare time, thereby increasing the staying time at the specific route point.